

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-07  
NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00  
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FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9638

C O N F I D E N T I A L THE HAGUE 7080

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PFOR EEC NL  
SUBJECT: FOREIGN MINISTER'S ASSESSMENT OF DUTCH EC PRESIDENCY

1. SUMMARY. VAN DER STOEL, SHOWING SOME SIGNS OF ONE  
RELIEVED THAT SIX MONTH SENTENCE HAS BEEN SERVED, ASSESSES  
DUTCH EC PRESIDENCY MODEST SUCCESS WHILE ACKNOWLEDGING  
SOME DISAPPOINTMENTS. CONCLUDES THAT US DIALOGUE WITH  
EC WAS SUBSTANTIVELY BETTER DURING DUTCH TENURE THAN EVER  
BEFORE. HOPES USG WILL UNDERTAKE SPECIFIC COMMITMENT TO  
RENEWED CIEC EFFORTS EARLY IN 1977. SEES SPANISH POLITICAL  
DEVELOPMENTS AS POSITIVE. ASKS ADVICE ON REMARKS ATTRI-  
BUTED TO PRESIDENT ELECT CARTER RE NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION  
POLICY. END SUMMARY.

2. AFTER PRESENTING ZIMBABWE DEVELOPMENT DOCUMENTATION  
(SEPTEL) I BEGAN GENERAL CONVERSATION OBSERVING THAT NEW  
ADMINISTRATION'S CABINET HAD NOW BEEN COMPLETED AND THAT  
ITS PROFILE WOULD BECOME MORE VISIBLE IN THE COMING  
WEEKS. MEANWHILE, HOWEVER, I WANTED TO ASSURE HIM THAT  
NEW ADMINISTRATION WAS COMMITTED TO CONTINUITY OF  
AMERICAN POLICY TOWARD EUROPE. VAN DER STOEL INTER-  
JECTED THAT SECRETARY KISSINGER'S DELIVERY AT NATO  
COUNCIL OF STATEMENT FROM PRESIDENT ELECT WAS REASSURING  
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TO ALL ALLIES, PARTICULARLY THE DUTCH. I SAID I HOPED  
THAT SOME EARLY OPPORTUNITY WOULD PRESENT ITSELF WHEREBY  
THE FOREIGN MINISTER COULD MEET SECRETARY DESIGNATE  
VANCE WHOM VAN DER STOEL SAID HE DID NOT KNOW.

3. VAN DER STOEL IS CLEARLY SATISFIED THAT DUTCH PER-

FORMED EFFECTIVELY AS EC PRESIDENT THESE LAST SIX MONTHS, SAYING THAT GON BELIEVED IT HAD ACHIEVED MORE THAN ITS PREDECESSOR IN THE ARTS OF POLITICAL COOPERATION AMONG THE NINE. AS EXAMPLES OF ODDLY UNRELATED MATTERS HE POINTED TO RESOLUTION OF DIRECT ELECTIONS TO EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND HIS VISIT ON BEHALF OF NINE TO BELGRADE, ADDING THAT ALL OF EUROPE HELD AN IMPORTANT INTEREST IN YUGOSLAVIA BEYOND TITO. AS DISAPPOINTMENTS HE LISTED THE NON-DELIVERANCE OF ANYTHING WORTHWHILE OF THE EC SUMMIT IN THE HAGUE IN LATE NOVEMBER AND THE PERSISTENT INABILITY OF THE NINE TO AGREE ON COMMON FISHERIES POLICIES. THIS IS A PARTICULARLY FRUSTRATING ISSUE WHICH WILL CONTINUE TO AGGRAVATE RELATIONS WITHIN THE COMMUNITY, HE SAID.

4. ONE DISTURBING TENDENCY AMONG THE NINE WHICH ANNOYED HIM VAN DER STOEL SAID WAS THE INCLINATION OF SOME TO WANT TO DISCUSS SECURITY ISSUES, CITING ILLUS-TRATIVELY MBFR. HE EMPHASIZED THAT THE DUTCH WERE OPPOSED TO THIS AND THAT HE PERSONALLY HAD DONE HIS BEST TO CONVINCE HIS COLLEAGUES THAT SUCH MATTERS WERE BEYOND THE COMPETENCE OF THE NINE, NOT ITS BUSINESS IN THAT FORUM AND WERE PROPERLY AGENDA MATTERS FOR NATO ONLY. I SAID THE USG APPRECIATED THIS ATTITUDE AND THAT THERE WAS AMPLE OPPORTUNITY FOR THE MOST VITALLY AFFECTED OF THE NINE (MY IRISH FOREBEARS FORGIVE ME) TO PRESENT THEIR VIEWS AT THE NATO TABLE. VAN DER STOEL'S POINT IS TYPICAL OF THE CLASSIC VIEW MANY DUTCH HOLD OF THEMSELEVES THAT THEY HAVE A ROLE TO PLAY ON A LARGE STATE--THE TRANSATLANTIC ONE.  
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5. VAN DE STOEL ALSO SEES CONCERN IN THE PERPETUATION OF A MORE POLITICALLY PREGNANT EURO"ARAB DIALOGUE. THE PRESSURE FOR THIS, ACCORDING TO HIM, COMES PRIN-CIPALLY FROM THE MORE RADICAL ARABS AND HE FEARS MAY BEGIN TO FALL ON INCREASINGLY RECEPTIVE EUROPEAN EARS. VAN DER STOEL BELIEVES THAT BOTH THE UK AND THE FRG MAY BE MORE SUSCEPTIBLE TO SUCH OVERTURES AND THAT IT WOULD BE WORTHWHILE FOR THE USG TO QTE HAVE A WORK UNQTE WITH THE BRITISH AS THEY PREPARE TO SUCCEED THE DUTCH IN THE EC CHAIR. HE SAID HE HAD MENTIONED THIS TO THE SECRETARY EARLIER THIS YEAR BUT WAS UNAWARE THAT ANY-THING HAD FOLLOWED FROM IT. EQUALLY UNAWARE, I EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR THE DUTCH CONCERN AND ALLOWED THAT WE HAD A PARTICULAR NEED FOR RESISTANCE AGAINST AN ENHANCED DIALOGUE INASMUCH AS I AM CONFIDENT THE USG WILL CON-TINUE TO EXPLORE POSSIBLE NEW INITIATIVES IN MIDDLE EAST DIPLOMACY. WE AGREED THAT THE MORE EURO"ARAB COMMUNIQUE

SAY LESS THE BETTER FOR EVERYONE.

6. TURNING TO EC ENLARGEMENT, VAN DER STOEL SAID THAT NEGOTIATIONS WITH GREECE WERE PROCEEDING BUT THAT IT WAS POSSIBLE THE EC COULD FIND ITSELF IN PARALLEL NEGOTIATIONS WITH SPAIN. AT THIS I ASKED FOR HIS REACTION TO THE SPANISH REFERENDUM. QTE POSITIVE, MORE THAN I EXPECTED UNQTE, HE SID. IF SPAIN SUCCEEDED IN SUSTAINING ITS PRESENT MOMENTUM TOWARD DEMOCRATIZATION, IT OBVIOUSLY MADE THE CASE FOR SPAIN'S INTEGRATION INTO THE COMMUNITY MUCH EASIER, HE ADDED. I WAS PERSONALLY ENCOURAGED BY HIS COMMENTS ABOUT SPAIN. THEY WERE NEITHER HESITANT NOR GRUDGING. MENTIONING TURKEY, VAN DE STOEL SAID HE WAS STILL SEEKING SOME AGREED MEANS TO MOVE ANKARA'S STATUS SOMEWHERE BEYOND ITS ASSOCIATIVE PRESENT TO SOMETHING SHORT OF ULTIMATE FUTURE MEMBERSHIP AND SHOWED SOME TROUBLE IN GIVING A NAME TO WHAT HE WAS DESCRIBING. THIS WAS NOT PUR-  
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SUED. HE WENT ON THAT PORTUGAL WAS SWIMMING CLOSER INTO EC VIEW AND, I FELT, DEMONSTRATED MORE SYMPATHY FOR IT THAN FOR TURKEY. HE NOTED THAT SOARES WILL SOON BE MAKING THE ROUNDS IN EC CAPITALS AND THERE WOULD BE MORE DISCUSSION ABOUT LISBON'S ASPIRATIONS AT THAT TIME.

7. AS I WAS PREPARING TO LEAVE, THE FOREIGN MINISTER RAISED TWO ITEMS: FIRST, HE HOPED OUR NEW ADMINISTRATION WOULD FIND IT POSSIBLE TO UNDERTAKE QTE SOME COMMITMENT UNQTE ON NORTH/SOUTH PROBLEMS WITHIN THE CIEC BY THE TIME ITS WORKING GROUP RECONVENES IN FEBRUARY. HE CLEARLY REGRETS THAT THE FOREIGN MINISTERS DID NOT MEET THIS MONTH BUT NOW EXPECTS THEM TO SET SOME TIME IN APRIL. I SAID I WOULD TRANSMIT HIS COMMENTS TO WASHINGTON. SECOND, READING FROM A TELEGRAM HE CITED THE FOLLOWING QUOTE FROM PRESIDENT ELECT CARTER LAST SEPTEMBER: QTE I WILL MAKE NO NEW COMMITMENTS FOR THE SALE OF NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY OR FUEL TO COUNTRIES WHICH REFUSE TO FOREGO NUCLEAR EXPLOSIVES, TO REFRAIN FROM NATIONAL NUCLEAR REPROCESSING, AND TO PLACE THEIR NUCLEAR FACILITIES UNDER IAEA SAFEGUARDS UNQTE. HIS QUESTION IS ON THE REFERENCE TO QTE OR FUEL UNQTE IN THE ABOVE AND WHETHER THIS EXPANDS ON THE POLICY FORMULATION ISSUED BY PRESIDENT FORD IN OCTOBER.  
MCCLOSKEY

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